



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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MEDIA REMINDER

AMERENUE LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING IN WENTZVILLE

Jefferson City (October 23, 2003)---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold a local public hearing in **Wentzville** to receive customer comment on a natural gas rate case filed by AmerenUE. The Wentzville local public hearing schedule appears below:

Wentzville

October 28

6:00 pm *

Municipal Courtroom
1019 Schroeder Creek Road

NOTE: *The PSC Staff will conduct a general information session starting at this time to answer any questions customers may have. The information session will last 30 minutes with the local public hearing to follow.

This local public hearing will be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodations to participate in this hearing should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

Local public hearings give customers of the Company an opportunity to comment on the rate proposal currently before the Public Service Commission. In addition, customers can bring any service related problems to the attention of the Commission.

On May 23, 2003, AmerenUE filed a natural gas rate case with the Missouri Public Service Commission seeking to increase natural gas revenues by approximately \$26.7 million a year. According to AmerenUE, for an average residential customer using natural gas for heating, the proposed increase would be approximately \$16.26 a month.

This rate case reflects what are called the non-gas costs of providing service to customers. Non-gas costs are generally operating and maintenance expenses and a return on investment in plant (such as natural gas mains and service lines that carry natural gas to the customer's home or business). The Missouri Public Service Commission does not regulate the wholesale price of natural gas, the price AmerenUE pays to its suppliers for the gas that they deliver to their customers. The Commission does perform a regulatory review to ensure that regulated natural gas companies such as AmerenUE make prudent decisions in securing natural gas supplies for their customers.

Formal hearings in this rate case are scheduled to begin on **January 5, 2004**, in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building in Jefferson City. Hearings will also be held **January 12, 2004 through January 16, 2004, if necessary.**

AmerenUE provides natural gas service to approximately 111,000 natural gas customers in Missouri.